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A

LIST OF MICMAC NAMES

OF

PLACES, RIVERS, ETC., IN NOVA SCOTIA.

COMPILED BY

ELIZABETH FRAME.



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CAMBRIDGE:

JOHN WILSON AND SON.

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N O T E.

THE following list of Micmac names of places, rivers, etc., in Nova Scotia and neighborhood was compiled, at my request, by Miss Elizabeth Frame, of Shubenacadie, for the library of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and was duly presented at the meeting on June 9, 1892. She was aided in her labors by a Micmac Indian, as well as by the published works of Mr. Gesner and Dr. Rand. It is now printed at the expense of a gentleman of Cambridge, who is interested in Indian philology.

S. A. G.

BOSTON, August 20, 1892.

LIST OF MICMAC NAMES

OF

PLACES, RIVERS, ETC.

Ababe, a boundary.	Banooōpskek, opening out through rocks, as Penobscot.
Abaktooë, the great auk.	Banooskëk, entrance into Bras d'Or Lake.
Abe, a bow for an arrow.	Banoskëk, a water passage between two lakes.
Agamök, white ash.	Ba'pkoktë'k, Argyle.
Agoomákün, Apple River, Cumberland County.	Bäpkook, the birch bark will easily peel.
Agoomákünük, Sand River, Cumberland County.	Bäslooääkäde, St. Peter's Island, near Prince Edward Island.
Ah-mah-gops-ke-geek, tumbling over rocks; Tangier River.	Bookt, the head of a bay.
Ājeök'chemin, a blackberry.	Booktäwi'chk, rum, from
Akkäda, abundance of things; plenty of ground-nuts; hence Acadie (French).	Booktääoo, fire; hence fire-water; alcohol.
Ākrium, a snow-shoe, raquette.	Booktouläygun, fireworks; Toney River.
Amlamëkw', a mackerel.	Booktowäägün, Mill Creek on the River Hebert in Cumberland Co.
Anesaakw, Salmon River.	Boonämookwöde, Salmon River, Yarmouth.
Ansaakw, New Harbor.	Böstoon, America.
Apcheechkümoochwääkade, Duck land. Hence the French name Canard River.	Böstoonkäwaach, an American.
Āpsiboogwéchk', Port le Bear.	Böstoonkawoo'lkw, an American vessel.
Aseedik, Lunenburg.	Brooksake, Charlottetown Harbor, Prince Edward Island.
Asooemanökse, a creeping blackberry vine.	Cajj-booginek, winding through the wilderness; River John.
Aspatogon, a headland on the Atlantic.	Cälügët, Carragat Harbor.
Bäktabä', a bay.	
Banook, the first lake as you ascend a river.	

Cansoke, facing the frowning cliff ;
Canso.

Caskumpec, flowing through the sand; Caſcumpec, P. E. Island.

Caydybunnygek, clam diggings ; Boot Island, Hortou.

Chebookt, Halifax, from Ūkchebookt, the largest harbor or bay.

Cheemā, to paddle a canoe.

Chegaoō, bass, a fish.

Chegūmakūn, a rattle, an Indian tambourine.

Chijikwtook', Cornwallis River.

Chikchowwegūnēchwā'-wōsō-wēk', a rose.

Chikchowwegūnējūl, roseberries ; also the name of an orange.

Chipchowwēch', a robin.

Cwesomallygeek, Hardwood Ridge, Cumberland.

Ebēdēk, Bedeque, P. E. Island.

Ēlmūnākūncheech, Little Sevogal River.

Ēlsētkook', Bear River in Nova Scotia.

Ēmsūk, Port Jolli.

Eppayguit, anchored on the wave ; Prince Edward Island.

Ēskūmāāgā, to eat raw flesh ; hence the name of the eskimo Indians, eaters of raw flesh.

Ēskūmūnaak', Mount Skununāk.

Ēskūmūnaak, Point Skimenack, in New Brunswick.

Ēskwōdēk', Murray Harbor, P.E.I.

Ēspakūmegēk, high land. Green Hill, Pictou County.

Gaspēch, Gaspé; far into the water.

Glooscap, a manitou who dwelt in the Bay of Fundy, at Blomidon.

Goolwagōpskooch, Port George.

Gul-wahgahgek, the home of the sea-cow; Quaco, New Brunswick.

Inskooomădeedich, Lakelaud, N.S.

Kābēm, the border of a lake.

Kāgwēamkēk, Port Hood.

Kakagwēk, a place of dried meat ; now Hantsport, in Hants Co.

Kākwōleegigūn, a snow-bank.

Kāleboo, caribou.

Kaleboode, a shovel. Hence **Kalēboo**, caribou, the shoveller, because they shovel up the snow with their broad feet in digging down for the moss on which they feed.

Katkooch' and Katkoolch', Brooklyn, Queens Co., Nova Scotia.

Keäskūnoōgwējīt, a mighty chopper, a fabulous being who cuts down trees ; you hear the chopping, the workman is invisible, but the tree falls.

Kēbamkeāk', Bathurst, on the Bay of Chaleur.

Kēbāpskitk, the stream that connects two lakes.

The six lakes on the Liverpool River, as you go up stream :

1. **Panook**.
2. **Kēdooskēk'**.
3. **Pushūgook'**.
4. **Kējimkoojik**.
5. **Imūtkaak**.
6. **Toobeadooogook**.

Lakes on Salmon River, east of Halifax :

1. **Ūsoogomūsoogwēdāmk'**.
2. **Milpāāchk**.
3. **Utkoskwāāchk**.
4. **Kloocheowpāāch**.
5. **Nēmchenokpāāch**.
6. **Noogoomkūbāāk**.
7. **Mtābēs-wāākādē** (where mud-catfish abound).

On Port Medway River are :

1. **Banook**.
2. **Māligeāk'**.

Kebbek, narrows; Quebec.¹

Kegūmoosk, Little River, a branch of the Restigouche.

Kekwajoo, a badger.

Kenomee, Sandy Point, now Economy, in Colchester County.

Kesāpskūl, Apesookaam Lake.

Kesegoo, an aged man.

Kesegooaākw, an aged porpoise or seal.

Kesegoo'e, an aged bird.

Kesegooēesk̄w, an aged woman.

Kesegook, an aged porcupine.

Kesegoo'msk, an aged beaver.

Kesegoo'sūm, an aged dog.

Kesegoo'tkw, an aged cow, moose, horse.

Keskāāk, the wood is broad.

Kēskoospāāk, Little River.

Kēskūtkwēk, the river is broad.

Kesokūdēk', the neighborhood of Archibald's Mills at Truro.

Kesooskowōstoogwēk', Middle River, Pictou.

Kesooskwōstoogwēk, Little River, a branch of Sheet Harbor River.

Kespabēgea'chk, Big Kespeba-dak'.

Keespoogwitk, Land's End, Yarmouth.

Kīkcheboogwēk, Cavendish, Prince Edward Island.

Kitpoo, an eagle.

Kitpooāākāde, Cape Shubenacadie.

Kitpoo-aykaddy, a place of eagles, near the river Shubenacadie, now known as the Eagles' Nest.

Kloopskēāākāde, Bird Island.

Kobet, a beaver.

Kobetēk', Aylesford Bog.

Koo'koogwes', an owl.

Kookūmijenagwānāk', Cape Doliuin.

Koolpesoo'n, an anchor.

Koolpijootk, Petpiswick Harbor.

Koospēm, a lake.

Kow-week, porcupine quills.

Ktādoosōk, Saguenay River.

Kūlokwējook, Mary Joseph, below Halifax.

Kūlūmooējemanōkse, bilberry.

Kwebēk, the head of the tide, now Bedford.

Kwemoodieech, Pope's Harbor.

Kwēsomālegēk', a hard-wood Point, now Fort Lawrence.

Kwēsow-wāāk, a cape of land.

Logūmkeegūn, Shelburne.

Lūntook', deer.

Lūskāch, Manadoo in Cape Breton.

Lustegooch, Restigouche River.

Māākān, Maccan River in Cumberland County.

Mabou, a river in Cape Breton.

Madawāāk, a point where two rivers come together.

¹ This is beyond question the origin of the name of the city of Quebec. The French pronounce *Quebec* not *kwe-bēk*, as the English do, but *kēb-bēk*, the exact pronunciation of the Indian word. The "Narrows," above Halifax Harbor, and a narrow place in the Liverpool River just below Milton, are thus named by the Indians. The syllable *kēb* or *kēp*, which is the same exactly in meaning, means to stop or impede, to choke up, etc. Many words begin with this syllable; as, *kēbejokūm*, to stop a hole; *kēbejokteskum*, to shut a door; *kēbadagwā'*, to be hoarse, to have the voice impeded; *kēbaadoo*, to stanch blood; *kebāp-skitk*, the stream is obstructed by rocks; *kēbāmkoogwēk*, the mouth of the river is obstructed by sand thrown in by the waves; *kēbe-skoonei*, my nose is stopped; etc.

Māg̑pskegēch̑k', tumbling over large rocks; Gaspereaux River, in Horton, King's County.

Mājēōktēlīgūn Lütkaamūn, an arrow.

Mākpāāk, Malpeque, in P. E. I.

Mākpāāch̑k, first and second lakes on Moses River.

Mālipkānch̑, a hazel-nut.

Maskwe, general name for bark.

Maycobegilk, end of the flowing (meaning the bound of the rushing water, the tide or bore); Cobiquid, Truro, now Salmon River.

Megāmaage, Nova Scotia; land of the Micmacs.

Mēgwā'jijik, the Red Indians of Newfoundland.

Mēgwās-ā', Belfast in P. E. Island.

Mēmkāāk-kwēsawā', Pandora Point.

Mēnagwēs', St. John, N. B.

Menichk, a berry.

Menoody, a bay; Minudie, Cumberland County.

Mēowch', a puss, a cat.

Mēs-adēk, Long Island, Horton, Nova Scotia.

Mēseebākūnūk', Sambro Cape.

Mēspāāk, Cape Mispek.

Migoonaasit, the out-spreader; a peacock.

Mijeogūn, St. Lawrence River.

Milāstūk, Bridgeport.

Milāpskegēch̑k, third lake on Moose River.

Milchēgaach, Meander River in Newport, Hants County.

Minkwōkūn, an acorn.

Minikwōnmoose, the oak.

Misegūmisk', Scraggy Lake.

Mistoogook, Mistouche River.

Moināwā, bear's meat.

Moo-ātumook, he is from home.

Mooin, a bear.

Mooinei', a bear-skin.

Moosegisk', the atmosphere.

Mootpoon, an animal's bed.

Mpōgūn, a bed.

Misookweel, the bark for building a canoe.

Mtabān', mud bridge; Wolfville, Nova Scotia.

Mtäe, a beaver-skin.

Mtoodook, Little River, Mira, Cape Breton.

Mūnagēsūnook', the Magdalene Islands.

Mūnā'pskw, a ledge of rocks.

Mündoo, Satan. This is the Algonkin name for the Great Spirit, but applied to the devil by the first Christian missionaries.

Mündooāpskw, Devil's Rock, now Jeddore Rock.

Mūnēskooch̑k', Muddy Creek, Prince Edward Island.

Mūnkwōn', the rainbow.

Musquodoboit, sparkling water, a river in Halifax County.

Nābūdagwēn'igūn, a basket handle.

Naookteboogooik, big pond.

Napan, Napan in Cumberland Co.

Napuskwa', to string beads.

Nebe, a leaf.

Nēbēltook', Bartibog, name of a place.

Negwēk, Negwak Island.

Nelegākūnēk, Newport River.

Neliksaak, Arichat.

Nēmcheboogwēk', Middle River, Cape Breton.

Nēmtakayāk', Neanticoe River.

Nepigiguit, on Chaleur Bay.

Neseāmk', Sable River, Nova Scotia.

Nictahk, forks; Nictau.

Noel, where the ice-cakes float loosely.

Noogoomkeāk', Moses River.	Pogūmkēk', Pouket Harbor.
Noos-abon, the river Noosaboon.	Pōnhōk', the first lake in a chain.
'Ntooa'gwākūn, Lot 49, Prince Edward Island.	Poogūnikpēchk', Picton Harbor.
'Ntūbloo, an army.	Pookudapskwōdē, Cape Porcupine, on the Strait of Canso.
Ogomkigeōk', Liverpool River, Nova Scotia.	Pootāleāwā', a basket.
Oochaadooch, Margaree River's mouth, Cape Breton.	Pugooōpskook, Owl's Head in Hants County.
Oochogām, a point covered with oak.	Pūlāmoo, salmon.
Oolāstook, St. John River, New Brunswick.	Pūlowecha Mūwego, Partridge Island.
Oonban, a moose's bed.	Pūlow-wech, a partridge.
Oonegūn, portage.	Saa-gaa-bun, the Miemac potato.
Ooniikskwōmkoock, Point Miskwe.	Saa-gaa-bun-akady, the place where the Miemac potato grows (Shubenacadie).
Owoolākūmooējīt, Famine, figuratively represented as an evil being.	Sakpulkweāk, there is wet snow and ice there.
Owwōkūn, Portage River, Miramichi, New Brunswick.	Sāsageem, a bare foot.
Paakwaak, stop here, you cannot go any further; Pockwock Lake.	Sāsoo Goole, Jesus Christ.
Pājedoobaachk, Oyster Pond.	Sebiskadākūncheech, Miscon Gully, Cape Breton.
Pālamooā' Seboo, Salmon River, Truro.	Seboo, a river.
Paspēge'āk, Paspebeek, Prospect.	Sēbūnisk', Lockport, Nova Scotia.
Pedeādēk, ignis fatuus.	Sēgūbūnākāde, Shubenacadie.
Pege, a side of meat, including all the ribs.	Sesetkook, Chezetcook.
Pēmāmkeāk', Sand Island, Miramichi.	Sesip or Sesipcheech', a bird.
Pentagouēt, a river in New Brunswick.	Ses-mogūn, sugar.
Pessyquid, flowing squarely into the sea; Avon River in Windsor, Hants County.	Sigūnikt', Chignecto.
Pētkootkweāk', Peticodiac River.	Simkook, Petite River in Lunenburg.
Petoobōk, Bras d'Or Lake in Cape Breton.	Skūdakūmoochoowte, Milky Way; the spirits' road.
Pijenooiskāk, La Ilave River.	Stewiacke, where the fresh water joins the salt; a river in Colchester County.
Piktook, Pictou.	Sūmskwēs', Pumpkin Island.
Piktoo'jūk, Martin's River, Colchester, Nova Scotia.	Sūnow', sugar maple.
	Tabooōtooētūn, Rustico, P. E. I.
	Tāooōpskik, the river runs out between rocks. Hence the name of the Annapolis River, Tāooōpskik.
	Tāwitk, Petite Passage, N. S.
	Team, a moose.

Tēsogwōde, Pirate's Cove, on Canso Strait.

Tooeetūnook', Avon River, Hants County.

Tūlūgādik, Grand Lake, Halifax County.

Ükcheseéboo, a large river.

Üktákumkook', Newfoundland.

Ükwatākūn, starvation; in the Indian legends represented as a quasi demigod, whose howling and approach indicate death and destruction.

Ülgēdoo, a mushroom.

Ülgēdook', Port Medway.

Ülnoo, a man, as distinguished from all other animals.

Ülnooe, to be a man, an Indian.

Ülnoojech, the eyeball, the little Indian, manikin.

Ümkoome, ice.

Üpkoo, gum.

Üpkwaweeégān', Oak Point in Cornwallis.

Upskāmkook, Petite River in Hants County.

Ütkübōk, Chebogue.

Wāgobāgítk', literally, the bay runs far up; hence Cobiquid.

Wéchkwémkeāk', Mizzen Point.

Wēdāwēlāk', the rain patters on the roof.

Wegoon, a bean.

Weijooik, Sheet Harbor.

Weiōpsk, a bead.

Weisis, a beast.

Wējowtik, Point Prim.

Weükūch', Margaree River, Cape Breton.

Wisküsök, **Milpágéch'**, **Nēnásā-küněk'**, and **Pēdāwikpāāk** are Tangier Lakes.

Wisūnawōn, Gay's River, in Halifax County.

Wōbabooōkchūk, white waters, Elm Tree River.

Wōbeākāde, literally Swan land, now Broad River Lake.

Wōjeechik, Pereaux in Cornwallis.

Wokūloopskūsow', Marble Head.

Wōkūmeāk', Nine-Mile River in Hants County.

Wokūmütkook, Middle River, Nova Scotia.

Wōlūmkwāka'gūnūchik, Port Mulgrave.

Wōlunkāk', Beaver Harbor.

Wōnpaak, Cole Harbor.

Wōsetūmooěk, Newel River.

Wōsoksegčk', Martin's Point, near Londonderry, Colchester County, on Debert River.

Wōsōgwēsōo-gwōde, Petite in Hants County, on the bay.

Wōspēgeāk', Shoal Bay.

Wōspooijiktook, among the seals; Herring Point, New Brunswick.

Yap Team, a bull moose.

SOUND OF LETTERS IN MICMAC.

THE consonants are sounded as in English: **g** is always hard, as in *go, egg*, and **c** exactly like **k**; **ch** as in *church*; **h** following a vowel in the same syllable (as in **ahk**) is a soft guttural, like the German *ch* in *Ich*. There is no *f* in Micmac; when attempting to pronounce French or English words which contain this letter, the Indians give it the sound of *b* or *p*.

The vowels are sounded thus: **a**, as in *father*; **ā**, as in *fate*; **ă**, as in *fat*; **â**, as the second *a* in *abait*; **e**, as in *me*; **ĕ** as in *met*; **ei**, as **i** in *pine*; **ĭ**, as **i** in *pin*; **o**, as in *no*; **ŏ** as in *not*; **u**, as in *tube, use*; **ŭ**, as in *tub*; **oo**, as in *fool, move*; **ŏo** as in *good, wood*; **ow**, as in *now*. When any vowel is doubled, as **aa**, **ăă**, **ee**, **ōō**, the usual sound is prolonged, and takes the accent, but the place for the accent is the penult. '**M**' or '**N**' at the beginning of a word with the accent marked, is sounded without a vowel.

The following are examples of the peculiarity termed "holophrastic," where a single word stands for a sentence:—

Boon, the sitting place, the cross-piece on which the padler sits.

Boósenéch, let us take a trip by water, let us go in a canoe.

Ępkwđse, I have a shelter from the rain over my head.

Kamátk, bushes yonder, beyond a cleared place.

Něspe, to be stopping in the wigwam to take care of it, while the others are away.

Newōpskitk, the bed of the river is dry, and the rocks are bare.

Wōpk, the morning light,— "the opening of the eye of the morning."

THE Miemac left no sculptured gods,
 No temples made of stone;
In misty caves, in storm-tossed clouds,
 Manitou dwelt alone.

But names remain on hill and plain
 Of this once powerful race,
And in those liquid Miemac words
 Their presence yet we trace

Where Aspatogon lifts her brow,
 Unblushing, to the sea;
Where crashing ice-cakes dash and break
 On lonely Scatarie;

Where turbid waters seethe and foam
 Round Gloosecap, Chebooktook;
On Tusket's Isles where sea-gulls rest,
 And heron on Panuke;

The rushing tides in Pesiquid,
 And Shubenacadie;
The level meads of Tantrainar;
 The falls of Konomee.

No Miemac now on Cobequid
 Hunts moose or caribou;
And alien races change the names
 Which first were named by you.

E. F.



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